

the living," says St. Thomas Aquinas; for the departed soul is in greater need, being no longer able to help itself.



Environment does not make character. The noblest characters often emerge from the worst surroundings, and moral failures from the best.



God respects not the arithmetic of our prayers, how many they are: nor the rhetoric of our prayers, how elegant they are: nor the logic of our prayers, how methodical they are; but the sincerity of our prayers, how heart-sprung they are.



Sixty-three years ago, at Saint-Servan, France was first established the Institute of the Little Sisters of the Poor. Today these ministering angels to the aged poor occupy a field almost as extensive as the Church itself. The world speaks in glowing terms of its wonders, but it contains nothing more wonderful than the growth of this Order of holy women, and nothing more praiseworthy than their sacrificing work.



Conscience is the exponent of a man's character. If it makes cowards of us all, it also makes us brave. It makes us weak, it makes us strong, it makes us miserable and happy, contend and discontented—it even makes us ill or well. A guilty conscience is the blackest hell on earth. For a clear conscience purgatory hath no terrors.



The Catholic Church holds that man enters this life for certain purpose, and that there are certain laws of his